Request for Quotation

**Bird disturbance: public engagement research to inform user-defined protected site management engagement (animation)**

**24th October 2024**

Request for Quotation

**Bird disturbance: public engagement research to inform user-defined protected site management engagement (animation)**

You are invited to submit a quotation for the requirement described in the specification, Section 2.

Please confirm by email, receipt of these documents and whether you intend to submit a quote or not.

Your response should be returned to the following email address by:

Email: Louisa.Knights@naturalengland.org.uk

Date: 14/11/24

Time: 10:00

Ensure you include the name of the quotation and ‘Final Submission’ in the subject field to make it clear that it is your response.

Contact Details and Timetable

Louisa Knights will be your contact for any questions linked to the content of the quote or the process. Please submit any clarification questions via email and note that, unless commercially sensitive, both the question and the response will be circulated to all tenderers.

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| --- | --- |
| Action | Date |
| Date of issue of RFQ | 31/10/24 at 12:00 |
| Deadline for clarifications questions | 08/11/24 at 12:00 |
| Deadline for receipt of Quotation | 14/11/24 at 12:00 |
| Intended date of Contract Award | 15/11/24 at 12:00 |
| Intended Contract Start Date | 15/11/24 |
| Intended Delivery Date | 20/03/2025 |

Section 1: General Information

Glossary

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and expressions used within this Request for Quotation shall have the following meanings (to be interpreted in the singular or plural as the context requires):

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|  |  |
| “Authority” | means Natural England who is the Contracting Authority. |
| “Contract” | means the contract to be entered into by the Authority and the successful supplier. |
| “Response” | means the information submitted by a supplier in response to the RFQ. |
| “RFQ” | means this Request for Quotation and all related documents published by the Authority and made available to suppliers. |

Conditions applying to the RFQ

You should examine your Response and related documents ensuring it is complete and in accordance with the stated instructions prior to submission.

Your Response must contain sufficient information to enable the Authority to evaluate it fairly and effectively. You should ensure that you have prepared your Response fully and accurately and that prices quoted are arithmetically correct for the units stated.

By submitting a Response, you, the supplier, are deemed to accept the terms and conditions provided in the RFQ. Confirmation of this is required in Annex 2.

Failure to comply with the instructions set out in the RFQ may result in the supplier’s exclusion from this quotation process.

Acceptance of Quotations

By issuing this RFQ the Authority does not bind itself to accept any quotation and reserves the right not to award a contract to any supplier who submits a quotation.

Costs

The Authority will not reimburse you for any costs and expenses which you incur preparing and submitting your quotation, even if the Authority amends or terminates the procurement process.

Self-Declaration and Mandatory Requirements

The RFQ includes a self-declaration response (Annex 1) which covers basic information about the supplier, as well as any grounds for exclusion. If you do not comply with them, your quotation will not be evaluated.

Any mandatory requirements will be set out in Section 2, Specification of Requirements and, if you do not comply with them, your quotation will not be evaluated.

Clarifications

Any request for clarification regarding the RFQ and supporting documentation must be submitted via email no later than the deadline for clarifications set out in the Timetable. The Authority shall be under no obligation to respond to queries raised after the clarification deadline.

The Authority will respond to all reasonable clarifications as soon as possible but cannot guarantee a minimum response time. The Authority will publish all clarifications and its responses to all suppliers via email unless deemed commercially sensitive.

If a supplier believes that a request for clarification is commercially sensitive, it should clearly state this when submitting the clarification request. However, if the Authority considers either that:

* the clarification and response are not commercially sensitive; and
* all suppliers may benefit from its disclosure,

then the Authority will notify the supplier (via email), and the supplier will have an opportunity to withdraw the request for clarification by sending a further message requesting the withdrawal of the clarification request. If not withdrawn by the supplier within 2 working days of the Authority’s notification, the Authority may publish the clarification request and its response to all suppliers and the Authority shall not be liable to the supplier for any consequences of such publication.

The Authority reserves the right to seek clarification of any aspect of a quotation and/or provide additional information during the evaluation phase to carry out a fair evaluation. Where the Authority seeks clarification on any aspect of the quotation, the supplier must respond within the timeframe requested by the Authority.

Amendments

The Authority may amend the RFQ at any time prior to the deadline for receipt. If it amends the RFQ the Authority will notify you via email.

Suppliers may modify their quotation prior to the deadline for Responses. No Responses may be modified after the deadline for Responses.

Suppliers may withdraw their quotations at any time by submitting a notice via the email to the named contact.

Conditions of Contract

The Authority’s

* Low Value Terms & Conditions (used for purchases under £10k)
* Standard Good and Services Terms & Conditions (used for purchases under £50k)

can be located on the

[Natural England Website](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england/about/procurement)

and will be applicable to any contract awarded as a result of this quotation process. The Authority will not accept any changes to these terms and conditions proposed by a supplier.

Suppliers should note that the quotation provided by the successful bidder will form part of the Contract.

Prices

Prices must be submitted in £ sterling, exclusive of VAT.

Disclosure

All Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies are subject to control and reporting within Government. In particular, they report to the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury for all expenditure. Further the Cabinet Office has a cross-Government role delivering overall Government policy on public procurement, including ensuring value for money and related aspects of good procurement practice. For these purposes, the Authority may disclose within Government any details contained in your quotation. The information will not be disclosed outside Government during the procurement.

In addition, the Authority is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, which provide a public right of access to information held by public bodies. In accordance with these two statutes, the Authority may be required to disclose information contained in your quotation to any person who submits a request for information pursuant to those statutes.

Further to the Government’s transparency agenda, all UK Government organisations must advertise on Contract Finder in accordance with the following publication thresholds:

* Central Contracting Authority’s: £12,000
* Sub Central Contracting Authority’s and NHS Trusts: £30,000

For the purpose of this RFQ the Authority is classified as a Central Contracting Authority with a publication threshold of £12,000 inclusive of VAT.

If this opportunity is advertised via Contracts Finder, we are obliged to publish details of the awarded contract including who has won the contract, the contract value, and indicate whether the winning supplier is a small and medium-sized enterprise (“SMEs”) or voluntary organisation or charity. A copy of the contract must also be published with confidential information redacted.

By submitting a Response, you consent to these terms as part of the procurement.

Disclaimers

Whilst the information in this RFQ and any supporting information referred to herein or provided to you by the Authority have been prepared in good faith the Authority does not warrant that this information is comprehensive or that it has been independently verified.

The Authority does not:

* make any representation or warranty (express or implied) as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the RFQ;
* accept any liability for the information contained in the RFQ or for the fairness, accuracy or completeness of that information; or
* accept any liability for any loss or damage (other than in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation or any other liability which cannot lawfully be excluded) arising as a result of reliance on such information or any subsequent communication.

Any supplier considering entering into contractual relationships with the Authority following receipt of the RFQ should make its own investigations and independent assessment of the Authority and its requirements for the goods and/or services and should seek its own professional financial and legal advice.

Protection of Personal Data

In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 the supplier must agree to the following:

You must only process any personal data in strict accordance with instructions from the Authority.

* You must ensure that all the personal data that we disclose to you or you collect on our behalf under this agreement are kept confidential.
* You must take reasonable steps to ensure the reliability of employees who have access to personal data.
* Only employees who may be required to assist in meeting the obligations under this agreement may have access to the personal data.
* Any disclosure of personal data must be made in confidence and extend only so far as that which is specifically necessary for the purposes of this agreement.
* You must ensure that there are appropriate security measures in place to safeguard against any unauthorised access or unlawful processing or accidental loss, destruction or damage or disclosure of the personal data.
* On termination of this agreement, for whatever reason, the personal data must be returned to us promptly and safely, together with all copies in your possession or control.

General Data Protection Regulations 2018

For the purposes of the Regulations the Authority is the data processor.

The personal information that we have asked you provide on individuals (data subjects) that will be working for you on this contract will be used in compiling the tender list and in assessing your offer. If you are unsuccessful the information will be held and destroyed within two years of the award of contracts. If you are awarded a contract it will be retained for the duration of the contract and destroyed within seven years of the contract’s expiry.

We may monitor the performance of the individuals during the execution of the contract, and the results of our monitoring, together with the information that you have provided, will be used in determining what work is allocated under the contract, and in any renewal of the contract or in the award of future contracts of a similar nature. The information will not be disclosed to anyone outside the Authority without the consent of the data subject, unless the Authority is required by law to make such disclosures.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)

The Client is striving to create a diverse and inclusive working environment where every individual has equality of opportunity to progress and to apply their unique insights to making the UK a great place for living. The Service Provider is expected to respect this commitment in all dealings with Natural England staff and service users.

Suppliers are expected to;

* support Defra group to achieve its Public Sector Equality Duty as defined by the Equality Act 2010, and to support delivery of [Defra group’s Equality & Diversity Strategy](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defra-group-equality-diversity-and-inclusion-strategy-2020-to-2024/defra-group-equality-diversity-and-inclusion-strategy-2020-to-2024).
* meet the standards set out in the [Government’s Supplier Code of Conduct](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supplier-code-of-conduct)
* work with Defra group to ensure equality, diversity and inclusion impacts are addressed (positive and negative) in the goods, services and works we procure, barriers are removed and opportunities realised.

Sustainable Procurement

Addressing global sustainability impacts and realising additional community benefits within commercial activity is core to Defra group’s approach, working with its supply chain is key to achieving sustainable outcomes. In addition to supporting Defra group to meet its outcomes we look to understand and reduce negative sustainability impacts associated with our commercial activity and realise benefits.

The Client encourages its suppliers to share these values, work to address negative impacts and realise opportunities, measure performance and success.

Suppliers are expected to have an understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals, the interconnections between them and the relevance to the Goods, Services and works procured on the Client’s behalf.

Conflicts of Interest

The concept of a conflict of interest includes but is not limited to any situation where an Involved Person or Relevant Body has directly or indirectly, a financial, economic or other personal interest which might be perceived to compromise their impartiality and independence in the context of the procurement procedure and/or affect the integrity of the contract award.

We expect suppliers to mitigate appropriately against any real or perceived conflict of interest through their work with government. A supplier with a position of influence gained through a contract should not use that position to unfairly disadvantage any other supplier or reduce the potential for future competition

Where the supplier is aware of any circumstances giving rise to a conflict of interest or has any indication that a conflict of interest exists or may arise you should inform the Authority of this as soon as possible (whether before or after they have submitted a quotation). Tenderers should remain alert to the possibility of conflicts of interest arising at all stages of the procurement and should update the Authority if any new circumstances or information arises, or there are any changes to information already provided to the Authority. Failure to do so, and/or to properly manage any conflicts of interest may result in a quotation being rejected.

Provided that it has been carried out in an open, fair and transparent manner, routine pre-market engagement carried out by the Authority should not represent a conflict of interest for the supplier.

Section 2: The Invitation

Specification of Requirements

The Authority is Natural England. The Authority’s priorities are to secure a healthy natural environment; a sustainable, low-carbon economy; a thriving farming sector and a sustainable, healthy and secure food supply. Further information about the Authority can be found at [Natural England](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/)

The UK’s seabirds are internationally important but populations are in a worrying state of decline. The Lock review identified human disturbance as one of the four most impactful pressures affecting England’s breeding seabirds, with 100% of Special Protection Areas being affected by bird disturbance. Similarly, some of the same sites are affected in the non-breeding season when coastal waterbirds are present.

Protected Site Strategies offer the opportunity to address widespread problems like human disturbance in a holistic way. Key to success will be research into effective techniques, including land-manager insight, which can underpin public engagement materials to be created once and used many times in different locations.

Materials including animations could be used at local (site level), regional (local interest groups) and national (social media) levels to inform and educate stakeholders, with the ultimate aim of reducing seabird and waterbird disturbance at protected sites.

Requirement

Protected Site Strategies are powers Natural England hold to design strategic solutions for complex, inter-related and widespread problems affecting sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs) classified for bird features. Birds are highly susceptible to human disturbance, which can stem from a range of sources including recreation. Disturbance can lead to increased energetic demands and may impact breeding success if birds have to vacate nests at crucial times. Often these impacts can be managed through public engagement, targeted at site visitors and / or interest groups.

Two groups of birds that may be especially susceptible to human disturbance are breeding seabirds and non-breeding waterbirds (such as waders and wildfowl). Both use coastal habitats where people frequently exercise, walk dogs, or engage in pastimes which could be impactful.

Whilst this project is too limited in scope to focus on individual user groups, as far as possible the research (and subsequent materials) should consider a broad range of potentially disturbing activities, including walkers, dog walkers, anglers, drone fliers, paddle boarders, kayakers, rock climbers / coasteerers, wind / kite surfers, boaters, and commercial boaters (e.g. wildlife tours).

The English Seabird Conservation and Recovery Pathway ([ESCaRP](https://sciencesearch.defra.gov.uk/ProjectDetails?ProjectId=20777)) specifically recommends measures should be put in place to safeguard breeding seabirds against disturbance, including increasing education and stakeholder engagement on the issue. There are also individual site initiatives targeting non-breeding bird disturbance, such as ‘[Bird Aware](https://birdaware.org/solent/)’ in the Solent.

This contract would draw upon existing knowledge, including focused research involving site-managers, to make recommendations about effective approaches to raising awareness of the impacts of human disturbance. We envisage these to include animations which can be shared via social media to specific locations or interest groups.

Natural England have created several animated short films for public engagement which can be effective in communicating messages to wide groups of people through rapid channels including social media. Two examples are listed below.

Seagrass Heroes:  [Why Do Seagrass Meadows Matter? Carbon Storage, Coastlines, Water Quality and Biodiversity (youtube.com)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aW9WJZaD9Ds)

Boat moorings: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rx-xuo9tRgk](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Drx-xuo9tRgk&data=04%7C01%7CLouisa.Knights%40naturalengland.org.uk%7C38fca123ad004bb7fc2708d9e0c81735%7C770a245002274c6290c74e38537f1102%7C0%7C0%7C637787972252912618%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=Xf4KZq9pfW%2BKeBTDqvwS3A4B9hYqS6OKx2sIbPEIsiI%3D&reserved=0)

We believe animations will enable us to grab the attention of the viewer, and give succinct and visual messages, in a user friendly-format that can be used in person onsite at relevant locations (via a screen or a QR code on a smartphone), in talks and presentations to interested user groups, and more widely via YouTube and social media channels.

We would like the contractor to deliver three main objectives for this project:

1. Undertake a review of existing public engagement approaches to bird disturbance management, with a focus on the UK. This should explore a) literature demonstrating which approaches are likely to succeed, for example from social science studies; and b) any learning from existing initiatives attempting to manage bird disturbance through public engagement.
2. Form a small group of lead site managers from the organisations most responsible for managing protected sites of relevance to seabirds and waterbirds in England (likely to include RSPB, National Trust, the Wildlife Trusts and Natural England). Through structured interviews or other appropriate techniques, gain insight into the views and requirements of site managers in relation to public engagement and human disturbance.
3. Create an animation which reflects the findings of 1 and 2, which can be shared through digital channels to reach relevant audiences, and list recommendations for follow-up activities which could support this.

The Animation

The animation should be short (maximum 2 minutes) and focussed on engaging the public with the importance of protected sites for birds, the benefits they can bring to us, the threats they face from recreational disturbance, and simple measures that people can take to reduce or remove those threats.

Based on the findings of the research, the animation should highlight the main sources of possible disturbance and the steps people can take to reduce their impacts.

Secondary social media friendly ‘shorts’ should be produced using the same style and artwork on each of the main themes of disturbance. The number of shorts is to be agreed at the start of the project, but likely to be no more than four.

Impact assessment aims

* Profile – all ages and backgrounds reached
* Engagement – increased awareness of the impact of recreational disturbance
* Understanding – increased understanding of behavioural change to avoid or reduce disturbance
* Connection – increased connection to the subject, leading to a desire to make changes/act to protect birds and their environment

The animation should be suitable to reach multiple audiences on multiple platforms. For instance:

* Online – the animation could be published on YouTube, with shorts shared via social media channels.
* Onsite – the animation could be played at relevant protected sites on screens in visitor or interpretation centres, or it could be shared via a QR code that visitors can use to access the animation on their smartphones.
* Offsite – the animation and / or shorts can be used for presentations and talks locally, regionally or nationally.

Sustainability

Natural England protects and improves the environment and is committed to reducing the sustainability impacts of its activities directly and through its supply chains. We expect the Contractor to share this commitment and adopt a sound, proactive sustainable approach in keeping with the 25 yr environmental plan/our commitments compliant with all applicable legislation. This includes understanding and reducing direct and indirect sustainability impacts and realising opportunities, including but not restricted to; resilience to climate change, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, water use and quality, biosecurity, resource efficiency and waste, reducing the risk of pollution, biodiversity, modern slavery and equality, diversity & inclusion, negative community impacts.

As a delivery partner, the successful contractor is expected to pursue sustainability in their operations, thereby ensuring the Contracting Authority is not contracting with a supplier whose operational outputs run contrary to the Contracting Authority’s objectives. The successful contractor will need to approach the project with a focus on the entire life cycle of the project

Outputs and Contract Management

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Reference | Deliverable | Responsible Party | Date of completion |
| Research element | Literature review and site manager interviews | Contractor | End December 2024 |
| Written report | A written report in MS Word format, summarising the key findings from objectives 1 & 2, delivered in draft to Natural England by early January 2025 | Contractor | Early January 2025 |
| Animation production (draft) | Animation (and associated shorts) produced and shared with Natural England in draft by beginning of March | Contractor | 04/03/2025 |
| Animation production (final version) | Animation (and associated shorts) produced and shared with Natural England in draft by 20th March 2025 | Contractor | 20/03/2025 |

* Weekly or Fortnightly MS Teams meetings will held throughout the duration of the project (November 2024-March 2025), following a startup meeting post contract award.
* Draft storyboards for the animation (and associated shorts) should be created during the research phase and tweaked to reflect the findings.
* Draft written report (MS Word format or similar) due in early January (suggest 08/01/2025) in digital format via email.
* Final written report (MS Word format or similar) due on 20th March 2025 in digital format via email.
* First working version of the main animation is anticipated to be ready in mid February, with associated shorts in draft to follow. There is likely to be several weeks needed for comment and minor changes following consultation with various interested parties within Natural England. However the first fully finished version (draft) of the main animation and associated shorts is not due until the beginning of March (4th March 2025), with the final completed versions of all products (following any changes required) to be delivered on the 20th March 2025, when the contract should be completed.

It is anticipated that this contract will be awarded tor a period of 4.5 months, to end no later than 20/03/25 Prices will remain fixed for the duration of the contract award period. We may at our sole discretion extend this contract to include related or further work. Any extension shall be agreed in advance of any work commencing and may be subject to further competition.

Payment

The Authority will raise purchase orders to cover the cost of the services and will issue to the awarded supplier following contract award.

The Authority’s preference is for all invoices to be sent electronically, quoting a valid Purchase Order number.Invoicing should be done at the end of the project once all products have been delivered.

It is anticipated that this contract will be awarded for a period of 4.5 months to end no later than 20th March 2025. Prices will remain fixed for the duration of the contract award period. We may at our sole discretion extend this contract to include related or further work. Any extension shall be agreed in writing in advance of any work commencing and may be subject to further competition.

Evaluation Methodology

The evaluation is broken down into 2 elements, technical (quality) and commercial (price).

Technical:

* Proposed methodology – how will the supplier provide / deliver the research element of the project?
* Creative style of the proposals for the animation.
* Key personnel who will be directly involved with this contract – what experience do they have, do they have the technical capability to create the required products.
* Measurement of success for each deliverable – can the supplier deliver to time / cost / quality?
* Recent experience of carrying out similar contracts.

Commercial:

* Can the supplier deliver within budget?

We will award this contract in line with the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) as set out in the following award criteria:

Technical – 60%; Commercial – 40%

Evaluation criteria

Evaluation weightings are 60% technical and 40% commercial, the winning tenderer will be the highest scoring combined score.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Award Criteria | Weighting (%) | Evaluation Topic & Weighting | Sub-Criteria | Weighted Question |
| Technical | 60% | Research | Methodology | Q1.1 How will the contractor carry out the research (10% of technical score available)  Q1.2 How will the contractor present the findings and apply them within the animation (10% of the technical score available) |
| Animation | Creative style | Q2.1 What is the proposed creative style for the animation? (30% of the technical score available) |
| General | Supplier suitability / experience | Q3.1 What is the technical capability of the supplier (30% of the technical score available)  Q3.2 Recent experience of similar work (20% of the technical score available) |
| Commercial | 40% | Whole life cost of the proposed Contract | Commercial Model | Q4 How much is the supplier quoting for the entire project of works (40% of the commercial score available) |

Technical (**60**%)

Technical evaluations will be based on responses to specific questions covering key criteria which are outlined below. Scores for questions will be based on the following:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Description | Score | Definition |
| Very good | 100 | Addresses all the Authority’s requirements with all the relevant supporting information set out in the RFQ. There are no weaknesses and therefore the tender response gives the Authority complete confidence that all the requirements will be met to a high standard. |
| Good | 70 | Addresses all the Authority’s requirements with all the relevant supporting information set out in the RFQ. The response contains minor weaknesses and therefore the tender response gives the Authority confidence that all the requirements will be met to a good standard. |
| Moderate | 50 | Addresses most of the requirements with most of the relevant supporting information set out in the RFQ. The response contains moderate weaknesses and therefore the tender response gives the Authority confidence that most of the requirements will be met to a suitable standard. |
| Weak | 20 | Substantially addresses the requirements but not all and provides supporting information that is of limited or no relevance or a methodology containing significant weaknesses and therefore raises concerns for the Authority that the requirements may not all be met. |
| Unacceptable | 0 | No response or provides a response that gives the Authority no confidence that the requirement will be met. |

Technical evaluation is assessed using the evaluation topics and sub-criteria stated in the Evaluation Criteria section above.

Separate submissions for each technical question should be provided and will be evaluated in isolation. Tenderers should provide answers that meet the criteria of each technical question.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Methodology | Detailed Evaluation Criteria |
| Q1.1 How will the contractor carry out the research element of the project. | Your response should:  1) Demonstrate a clear understanding of the nature of the research requirements.  2) Be a clear, practical, achievable, and cost-effective methodology to deliver these requirements.  3) Have information in sufficient detail to allow a full appraisal of the suitability of the approach to deliver for the project (e.g. state which organisations might be interviewed). |
| Q1.2 How will the contractor present the findings and apply them within the animation | Your response should:   1. Detail how you will present the results of the interviews 2. Demonstrate how the findings will be incorporated into the animation and / or shorts (e.g. if numerous interviews indicate that a particular recreational activity is disturbing to specific species, how will that be represented in the animation. 3. How will the supplier use the research to propose which activities or species should be the focus of the agreed 4 animated shorts. |

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| --- | --- |
| Creative Style | Detailed Evaluation Criteria |
| Q2.1 What is the proposed creative style for the animation? | Your response should:   1. Visually demonstrate the style that you propose to use for the animation and shorts. 2. Give examples of the detail of digital artwork that you are able to use within the animation. |

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| Supplier suitability / experience | Detailed Evaluation Criteria |
| Q3.1 What is the technical capability of the supplier | Your response should:   1. Demonstrate previous work (main animation and social media shorts if possible) 2. Detail how you would envisage this animation taking shape |
| Q3.2 Recent experience of similar contracts | Your response should:   1. List any previous similar contracts – that could be animations in a similar or different style to that proposed, and of specific interest will be any environmental or marine themed work previously carried out. |

Commercial (**40**%)

The Contract is to be awarded as a fixed price which will be paid according to the completion of the deliverables stated in the Specification of Requirements.

Note: re the above paragraph, a fixed price contract is a type of contract where the payment amount does not change, it is fixed, regardless of any changes in resources used or time expended by the supplier in contract delivery.

Suppliers are required to submit a total cost to provide the deliverables stated in the Specification of Requirements. In addition to this the Commercial Response template must be completed to provide a breakdown of the whole life costs against each deliverable used in the delivery of this requirement.

Calculation Method

The method for calculating the weighted scores is as follows:

Commercial

Score = (Lowest Quotation Price / Supplier’s Quotation Price ) x 40% (Maximum available marks)

* Technical

Score = (Bidder’s Total Technical Score / Highest Technical Score) x 60% (Maximum available marks)

The total score (weighted) (TWS) is then calculated by adding the total weighted commercial score (WC) to the total weighted technical score (WT): WC + WT = TWS.

Information to be returned

Please note, the following information requested must be provided. Incomplete tender submissions may be discounted.

Please complete and return the following information:

* completed Commercial Response template
* separate response submission for each technical question (in accordance with the response instructions)
* completed Mandatory Requirements (Annex 1)
* completed Acceptance of Terms and Conditions (Annex 2)

Award

Once the evaluation of the Response(s) is complete all suppliers will be notified of the outcome via email.

The successful supplier will be issued the contract, incorporating their Response, for signature. The Authority will then counter sign.

Annex 1 Mandatory Requirements

Part 1 Potential Supplier Information

Please answer the following self-declaration questions in full and include this Annex in your quotation response.

Part 1.1 Potential Supplier Information:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Question no. | Question | Response |
| 1.1(a) | Full name of the potential supplier submitting the information |  |
| 1.1(b) | Registered office address (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(c) | Company registration number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(d) | Charity registration number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(e) | Head office DUNS number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(f) | Registered VAT number |  |
| 1.1(g) | Are you a Small, Medium or Micro Enterprise (SME)? | (Yes / No) |

Note: See EU definition of SME <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en>

Part 1.2 Contact details and declaration

By submitting a quotation to this RFQ I declare that to the best of my knowledge the answers submitted and information contained in this document are correct and accurate.

I declare that, upon request and without delay you will provide the certificates or documentary evidence referred to in this document.

I understand that the information will be used in the selection process to assess my organisation’s suitability to be invited to participate further in this procurement.

I understand that the authority may reject this submission in its entirety if there is a failure to answer all the relevant questions fully, or if false/misleading information or content is provided in any section.

I am aware of the consequences of serious misrepresentation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Question no. | Question | Response |
| 1.2(a) | Contact name |  |
| 1.2(b) | Name of organisation |  |
| 1.2(c) | Role in organisation |  |
| 1.2(d) | Phone number |  |
| 1.2(e) | E-mail address |  |
| 1.2(f) | Postal address |  |
| 1.2(g) | Signature (electronic is acceptable) |  |
| 1.2(h) | Date |  |

Part 2 Exclusion Grounds

Part 2.1 Grounds for mandatory exclusion

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Question no. | Question | Response |
| 2.1(a) | Please indicate if, within the past five years you, your organisation or any other person who has powers of representation, decision or control in the organisation been convicted anywhere in the world of any of the offences within the summary below. | |
|  | Participation in a criminal organisation. | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Corruption. | ((Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Fraud. | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Money laundering or terrorist financing | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Child labour and other forms of trafficking in human beings | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
| 2.1(b) | If you have answered yes to question 2.1(a), please provide further details.  Date of conviction, specify which of the grounds listed the conviction was for, and the reasons for conviction.  Identity of who has been convicted  If the relevant documentation is available electronically please provide the web address, issuing authority, precise reference of the documents. |  |
| 2.1 (c) | If you have answered Yes to any of the points above have measures been taken to demonstrate the reliability of the organisation despite the existence of a relevant ground for exclusion? (i.e. Self-Cleaning) | (Yes / No) |
| 2.1(d) | Has it been established, for your organisation by a judicial or administrative decision having final and binding effect in accordance with the legal provisions of any part of the United Kingdom or the legal provisions of the country in which the organisation is established (if outside the UK), that the organisation is in breach of obligations related to the payment of tax or social security contributions? | (Yes / No) |
| 2.1(e) | If you have answered yes to question 2.3(a), please provide further details. Please also confirm you have paid or have entered into a binding arrangement with a view to paying, the outstanding sum including where applicable any accrued interest and/or fines. |  |

Part 2.2 Grounds for discretionary exclusion

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Question no. | Question | Response |
| 2.2(a) | The detailed grounds for discretionary exclusion of an organisation are set out on this [webpage](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/551130/List_of_Mandatory_and_Discretionary_Exclusions.pdf), which should be referred to before completing these questions.  Please indicate if, within the past three years, anywhere in the world any of the following situations have applied to you, your organisation or any other person who has powers of representation, decision or control in the organisation | |
| 2.2(b) | Breach of environmental obligations? | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.2 (f) |
| 2.2(c) | Breach of social obligations? | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.2 (f) |
| 2.2(d) | Breach of labour law obligations? | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.2 (f) |
| 2.2(e) | Shown significant or persistent deficiencies in the performance of a substantive requirement under a prior public contract, a prior contract with a contracting entity, or a prior concession contract, which led to early termination of that prior contract, damages or other comparable sanctions? | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.2 (f) |
| 2.2 (f) | If you have answered Yes to any of the above, explain what measures been taken to demonstrate the reliability of the organisation despite the existence of a relevant ground for exclusion? (Self Cleaning) |  |

Annex 2 Acceptance of Terms and Conditions

I/We accept in full the terms and conditions appended to this Request for Quote document.

Company \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

